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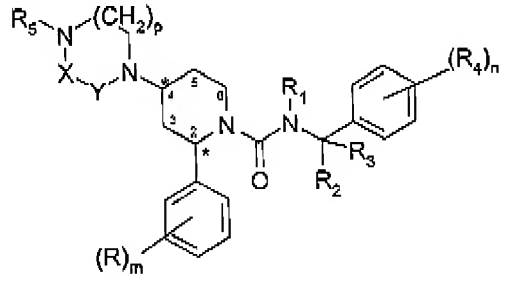
In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 19-24. Please amend Claims 1, 6, 12, 25 and 26 as follows.

Please add new claims 27-36.

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein

R is halogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R_1 is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R_2 is hydrogen , C_{1-4} alkyl;

R_3 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl ;

R_4 is trifluoromethyl, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, trifluoromethoxy or halogen;

R_5 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, $C(O)R_6$ or $S(O)_2R_6$;

R_6 is C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl;

m is zero or an integer from 1 to 3;

n is an integer from 1 to 3;

p is an integer from 1 to 2;

X and Y are independently C(O) or CH_2;

provided that

i) X and Y are not both C(O) and

ii) when X and Y are both CH_2 and p is 1, R_5 is not hydrogen , C_{1-4} alkyl or $C(O)R_6$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt ~~or solvate~~ thereof.

2. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein m is zero or an integer from 1 to 2.

3. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_1 is a methyl group.

4. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_2 is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group.

5. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_3 is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group.

6. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_4 is a trifluoromethyl group or halogen ~~(i.e chlorine)~~.

7. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_5 is hydrogen, methyl cyclopropyl, $C(O)CH_3$ or $S(O)_2CH_3$.

8. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein p is 1.

9. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R is at the 2 and/or 4 position in the phenyl ring .

10. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein n is 2 and the groups R_4 are at the 3 and 5 position in the phenyl ring.

11. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein
R is fluorine and/or C_{1-4} alkyl;
R_1 is a methyl group;
R_2 is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group;
R_3 is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group;
R_4 is trifluoromethyl;
R_5 is hydrogen, methyl, cyclopropyl , $C(O)CH_3$ or $S(O)_2CH_3$;
m is 1 or 2;
n is 2;

p is 1.

12. (Currently Amended) A compound selected from

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(R)-(3-oxo-piperazin-1-yl-)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, (3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methylamide;

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(S)-(3-oxo-piperazin-1-yl-)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, (3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methylamide;

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(R)-(4-methyl-3-oxo-piperazin-1-yl-)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, 1-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methylamide;

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(S)-(4-methyl-3-oxo-piperazin-1-yl-)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, 1-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methylamide;

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(S)-(4-methyl-3-oxo-piperazin-1-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, [1-(R)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-methylamide;

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(R)-(2-oxo-piperazin-1-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid (3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methylamide;

2-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(S)-(2-oxo-piperazin-1-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, (3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methylamide;

2-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(S)-(2-oxo-piperazin-1-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, (3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methylamide;

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(S)-(2-oxo-4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, (3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methylamide;

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(S)-(4-methyl-2-oxo-piperazin-1-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, [1-(R)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-methylamide;

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(S)-(4-methyl-2-oxo-piperazin-1-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxilic acid, [1-(R)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-methylamide;

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(R)-(4-cyclopropyl-3-oxo-piperazin-1-yl-)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, 1-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methylamide;

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(S)-(4-cyclopropyl-3-oxo-piperazin-1-yl-)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, 1-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methylamide;

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(S)-(1-methanesulfonyl-piperazin-1-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, 1-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methylamide;

2-(R)-(4-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-4-(S)-(1-methanesulfonyl-piperazin-1-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid, 1-[(R)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-methylamide;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts ~~and solvates~~ thereof.

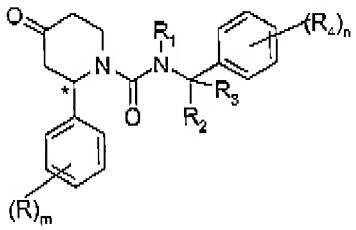
13-15. (Canceled.)

16. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1 in a mixture with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or excipients.

17-18. (Canceled.)

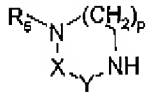
19-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound according to claim 1, wherein X is CH_2 or C(O) and Y is CH_2, said process comprising reacting a compound of formula (II):



(II)

with compound of formula (III):



(III)

in the presence of a suitable metal reducing agent;

followed where necessary or desired by one or more of the following steps:

i) removing any protecting group;

ii) isolating the compound as a salt or ~~a solvate~~ thereof; or

iii) separating the compound into enantiomers thereof.

26. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound according to claim 1, wherein Y is C(O), said process comprising cyclizing a compound of formula (VII),

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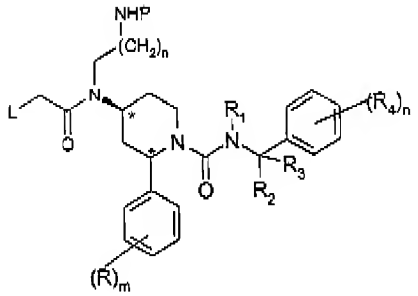

(VII)

wherein P is a nitrogen protecting group and L is a suitable leaving group;

followed where necessary or desired by one or more of the following steps:

i) removing any protecting group;

ii) isolating the compound as a salt ~~or a solvate~~ thereof;

iii) separating the compound into enantiomers thereof.

27. (New) A method for the treatment of a depressive state in a mammal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 1.

28. (New) The method according to claim 27 wherein said mammal is man.

29. (New) A method for the treatment of anxiety in a mammal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 1.

30. (New) The method according to claim 29 wherein said mammal is man.

31. (New) A method for treatment of emesis in a mammal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 1.

32. (New) The method according to claim 31 wherein said mammal is man.

33. (New) A method for treatment of a sleep disorder in a mammal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 1.

34. (New) The method according to claim 33 wherein said mammal is man.

35. (New) A method for treatment of an inflammatory disease of the bladder in a mammal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 1.

36. (New) The method according to claim 35 wherein said mammal is man.